



Murrell Brothers Tire, Inc.

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May 24, 2001

General Services Administration
FAR Secretariat (MVP)
1800 F Street, N. W., Room 4035
ATTN: Laurie Duarte
Washington, D. C. 20405

Gentlemen:

RE: Federal Acquisition Regulation
Case 2001-014

Please repeal the blacklisting rule against the small businesses of America because of the following reasons:

- The blacklisting rule adds significant punishments to existing laws which all have adequate penalties as determined by Congress.
- Almost anyone (including competitors, disgruntled former or current employees, unions seeking recognition or concessions, and disgruntled customers) can file false allegations of violations leading to denial of a federal contract.
- The rule is unnecessary as current acquisition regulations allow contract denials for unethical or illegal practices.
- There is no nexus between the ability to perform a contract and a company's conduct that may be alleged to be unethical or illegal.
- Government contracting officers, most of whom do not have much, if any, legal experience, will lack the resources and expertise to determine if a company should be blacklisted.
- Pending or otherwise unproven allegations can be considered by contracting officers regardless of their fairness or the motivations behind the charge.

Thank you very much,

MURRELL BROTHERS TIRE, INC.

Jim Murrell
President
JPM/lr

*Recd
6/4/01*